

mespun cotton, dyed with a sickly indigo blue from the sun, he almost lost heart. He could not bear to think of his children and grandchildren wearing such clothes. Many Ann's children and grandchildren, in the words of a friend, "Knew how to wear their clothes."

NATHANIEL GARDNER

Nathaniel Gardner was born at St. George, Utah, December 8, 1869. He inherited some very fine traits from his pioneer parents. He was thrifty, industrious, and dependable. His father had no use for a lazy man, his mother instilled the virtue of dependability and of honesty. Early in life he got the name, Nat.

His father had four wives and of necessity put heavy responsibility onto his sons, thus giving Nat the opportunity of being a self made man.

Robert Gardner spent a great deal of time on the St. George Temple and in other religious and civic duties. He was oftentimes away from one or more of his families. Two of the families were in Pine Valley much of the time, one in Price and one in St. George. When the father was away, Nat had the responsibility of his mother's home.

When a young man he worked with Anthony W. Ivins in the cattle business and thus had the intimate association of a great and good man. With his savings, Nat bought a team and wagon, and when Mr. Ivins moved to Mexico, Nat went to freighting.

About 1891 he came to Pine Valley to work and there met Rose Bracken, and on March 16, 1892, they were married. While both were thrifty and industrious their large family required careful cooperation and strict economy. His daughter Ercel, remembers the little account book that kept the family budget. One entry said, "We bought a piece of furniture; paid for it, thus taking the advice of the Church authorities not to go in debt."

When the children were old enough to go to high school, Nat and Rose moved to Cedar City in order to give them better advantages of education.

Nat continued his hauling freight until an unusual circumstance got him a better position. He was returning home one day when two robbers in an automobile stopped him. One of them jumped out with a pistol in hand and said, "Up with your hands, we want your money."

"You'll leave me enough to get home on won't you?", Nat asked.

"Not a penny," said the robber as he took the wallet with seventy-five dollars. He then put the pistol and money in his overcoat pocket and started to get into the car.

Nat reached quickly behind the seat in his own car and said in a voice that was cold and sharp, "Now up with your hands, quick. Slip that overcoat off, drop it on the ground."

"Don't shoot! Don't shoot!" called the man in frightened tones. Off came the coat which dropped to the ground.

"I'm a good shot," said Nat. "Get into your car and get going down the road. When you're out of sight, you'll be safer."

The man obeyed and was soon out of sight. Nat picked up the old coat with money and pistol and drove home to Cedar City. The next day there was quite a sensational article in the Iron County News about the affair. The railroad needed a night police and offered Nat the job. He made a good night watchman because of his fearless disposition and his ability to get along well with people. Though he worked at this position for many years and arrested many men, he never handcuffed one. He put them on their honor and never had one betray the trust. He worked at the position until seventy years of age.

A clipping in the Tribune recently said that Nat Gardner went to the polls today to vote for the Democratic party to fulfill a pledge that he made fifty years ago. On that day he was confined home with a broken leg and could not go to the polls to vote; so two members of the party carried him to the polls. In return for this courtesy he promised that he would vote for the party again in 50 years.

Nat and Rose had nine children who have been quite outstanding and a credit to their parents: Bennett, born April 24, 1893; Ercel, June 1, 1894; Thurlow, May 6, 1896; Worth, April 24, 1899; Marion Harlow, September 29, 1901; Lucile, September 13, 1903; Ella, November 25, 1905; McKay, September 24, 1910; Ralph, January 31, 1913.

ROSE BRACKEN GARDNER

Rose Gardner was the daughter of James Bennett and Marian Whipple Bracken. She was born on September 29, 1875. She was appropriately named for she was indeed a Rose in her father's family. At the age of four years, she started to attend the Primary in Pine Valley Ward, and if they had a program, Rose always had a little poem to recite, they would put her upon the table so she could be seen. At the age of fourteen she joined the Mutual Improvement Association, in that organization she was outstanding. When she was called on to give a lesson or to

Work Station - 335

Date - Mon Mar 06 16:31:18 1995

Number of Pages - 3